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SOURCE Vjesnik Rada.WOMEN EMPLOYEES IN THE YUGOSLAV ECONOMY

Vera Basic

Today, 498,909 women (not counting civil servants) are employed in the Yugoslav economy; 25.6 percent of the total number of employed are women. Since 1939, the percentage of women in the labor force has been increasing most in those industries where it was commonly thought a large number of women could not work, such as heavy industry, mining, and construction.

The percentage of women employed in various branches of the Yugoslav economy is as follows (figures are for 1949, except those marked with an asterisk, which are for 1948):

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STATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NAVY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NSRB															
ARMY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	AIR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FBI															

<u>Branch of Economy</u>	<u>Serbia</u>	<u>Croatia</u>	<u>Slovenia</u>	<u>Bosnia and Herzegovina</u>	<u>Macedonia</u>	<u>Montenegro</u>
Mining	19.12*	16.01	18.14*	12.08	11.36*	9.57
Metal processing	16.34*	23.16	25.14*	18.47*	9.75	--
Metallurgy	18.10	16.51	16.87	11.85	0.35	--
Forestry	14.08*	10.11	15.55*	9.45*	4.77*	13.07
Lumber industry	25.48*	30.23*	26.42*	13.34	12.91	18.29
Agriculture	24.21	23.49*	33.77	17.16*	14.63	26.53
Food industry	24.02	34.37*	35.27*	34.06*	23.28	16.79
Chemical industry	38.08*	41.99*	30.19	19.14	28.11	50.85
Leather, rubber, footwear	38.93	47.50	41.39	20.52	16.09	2.94
Cellulose, wood, paper	39.81	55.27	32.69	24.39*	20.11	--
Commerce	29.45*	37.23*	50.66*	30.82	18.05	29.33
Textile industry	55.16*	63.61*	69.96	71.79*	61.10*	--
Tobacco industry	50.81	73.27*	72.86	70.19	45.22	68.63*

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The preceding percentages suggest that the lumber industry could employ women to the extent of about 35 percent of its total labor force, agriculture 40 percent, the food industry 40 percent, the chemical industry in some enterprises 50 percent, the leather, rubber, and footwear industry in some enterprises 50 percent, the wood and paper industry 60 percent, commerce at least 60 percent and even up to 100 percent in some enterprises, the textile industry 80 percent, and the tobacco industry 75 percent.

The question of employing women is closely connected with their more extensive training for and advancement to administrative positions. In Slovenia, where every third worker is a woman, only every eighth woman is a skilled worker. A similar disproportion exists in the other people's republics. Although the proportion of women trainees is increasing from year to year, their total number is still inadequate. Although women make up 25.6 percent of the total labor force, the percentage of women trainees is only 11 percent. Except for the textile industry, where the percentage of women in management is high, the percentage of women in management in the various branches of the economy is very far below the proportion of women employed in these branches. As of September 1949, only 6.7 percent of the total number of engineers employed and 5.6 percent of the technicians were women.

Of the total number of workers hired from January to July 1949, only 11.78 percent were women. However, the proportion of womanpower is increasing constantly. From January to July 1949, womanpower showed a relative increase of one percent. Of the total number of men and women hired from January to July 1949, about 75 percent of the women stayed on the job, while only 25 percent of the men stayed. Over 80,000 women participated in the "voluntary" labor brigades in the first 9 months of 1949, which means that every ninth brigadier was a woman, while every fourth brigadier who remained on the job as a permanent worker was a woman.

Children's institutions in Yugoslavia can care for nearly 20,000 children of employed mothers. About 29,000 more children need to be accommodated, if it is estimated that one of every five women employed at present has a child under 7, and that half of these children need to be placed in an institution while the mother is working.

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